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### BOOK REVIEWS.

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**Treatise on the Law Governing Indictments**, with forms covering the general principles of law relating to the finding, requisites and sufficiency of indictments, combined with forms which have received judicial approval. By Howard C. Joyce of New York City, joint author of "The Law of Nuisance." Albany, N. Y. Matthew Bender & Company. 1908.

The need of a book of this character has been apparent for some time. It covers the whole body of criminal law relating to the finding, requisites and sufficiency of indictments, and contains a complete set of forms, all of which have been tested by actual use. The forms are subordinate to the general treatment—a reversal of the usual text book on the subject. The author's style is clear and concise and each proposition stated is sustained by a reference to authority. We note that Virginia cases are repeatedly cited, though in one instance—"Commonwealth v. St. Clair—the number of the volume is not given either in the citation or in the table of cases. The case is in 1 Grat., p. 556. The value of the book is augmented by a treatment of offenses in violation of the Interstate Commerce and Sherman Anti-Trust Law, and other offences against the Federal Law.

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**Trial Evidence.** A synopsis on the Law of Evidence generally applicable to trials. By Richard Lea Kennedy, L. L. B. of the St. Paul Bar. St. Paul, Minn. The Keef Davidson Co. 1906.

This volume of forty-nine pages of type and forty-nine blank leaves is an excellent book to have at one's elbow and in the court room. It contains a concise statement of the general rules of evidence. The reader can annotate it to suit himself on the alternate blank pages. It is only valuable as a reference book, but we can easily see that in judicious hands it can be made of much use. To those, however, who do not possess the volumes of "Current Law," amongst whom we must be reckoned, the reference to that series, which occurs on nearly every page, will be valueless.

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In the "Review of Legal Reviews" in the May Number of the London Law Journal, is the following interesting account of an article by Mr. Cox-Sinclair upon "The Bar in The United States." It provides many striking comparisons with the English institution. In the first place, one may note the enormous influence both corporate and individual on the fate and fortune, on the birth, the progress, and the development to maturity of the nation which the Bar of the United States has exercised. In the evolution of the American Constitution, at the making of the American nation, the great lawyer class in the United States and the great lawyers of that class were

predominant in their influence at every step of national progress. Nowadays the influence of the class upon the State is not so large because not so necessary.

"Save in the sphere of International Law, the lawyer, save as a lawyer, has ceased to be a necessary part of the instrument of State, and with his decline as a personal power has arisen the corporate power of his order."

The corporate organization of the American Bar offers a remarkable contrast to our institution. Its one marked defect is that it has much less tradition, but it is also much more democratic.

"The division into the two departments of forensic advocacy and of business advice has never been known. . . . In no colony was there, and in no State is there any teaching, training, or examining body resembling our English Inn. In some few States, however, professional associations have obtained statutory recognition. The State admits, the State excludes, and for certain serious offences ejects. The result is comparatively little corporate feeling and corporate action, although the custom of an annual congress of members of the Bars throughout the States will in time have a very powerful influence in bringing this corporate spirit into existence and activity."

On the whole, the American lawyer seems better equipped than his English compeer for the pursuit of his profession, because of his excellent law schools; he pays much attention to International and Roman Law; he receives as a student practical training in moots—a good old English custom which is inadequately maintained now. Clearly each country has the virtues and faults of its origin, but the American system has something to teach us of scientific method in legal training as in so many other things.

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**Mr. Crewe's Career.** By Winston Churchill, Author of *Richard Carvel*, etc., etc. Illustrated. New York. The Macmillan Company. 1908. Price \$1.50.

What books should a lawyer read for amusement has been often asked and seldom answered. Should he read novels and biographies and memoirs which relate to members of his own profession, or eschew them as a certain nameless gentleman is said to eschew holy water? A distinguished law professor of an earlier day always said that no lawyer should read any novel except Warren's "Ten Thousand a Year." A great judge said he believed in a regular regime of the wildest French novels after a prolonged session of court, and one of Virginia's greatest lawyers once told the writer that the best text books on humanity were novels. Few lawyers will take much advice on the subject, but we think nearly all of them read Mr. Churchill's books. They can make no mistake in reading the present